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IFW

Attorney Docket No. 03685/LH

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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N. Sahadeo

Nalini P. Sahadeo

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by credit card payment, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper to Account No. 06-1378.

Applicant(s): Kazuhisa KIMURA

Serial No. : 10/716,899

Filed : November 18, 2003

For : INK JET RECORDING
MAINTENANCE APPARATUS
AND INK JET RECORDING
APPARATUS

Art Unit : 2853

Examiner : MIER, STEPHEN D.

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
WITH STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

Submitted herewith are copies of the four(4) documents identified on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A.

Documents A and D submitted herewith were cited in a U.S. Office Action dated July 13, 2004 (copy attached) issued in related U.S. Application Serial No. 10/395,960 . Documents B and C submitted herewith were cited in a PTO-892 attached to a U.S. Notice of Allowance dated May 3, 2004 (copy attached) issued in related U.S. Application Serial No. 10/396,307 .

The U.S. patent publications identified on said form PTO/SB/08A are not enclosed herewith since the USPTO waived the requirement to file copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications for U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003. See the USPTO Notice dated July 11, 2003.

The documents submitted herewith are considered to be material since they were cited by a U.S. Examiner in a related Application.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1)

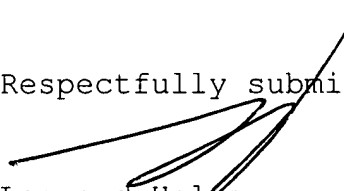
Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication issued in a related U.S. application not more than three months prior to the filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement. Said Communications bear mailing dates of May 3, 2004 and July 13, 2004 respectively. Therefore, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, is timely under 37 CFR 1.97(c).

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner return an initialed copy of the attached Form PTO/SB/08A to confirm that the documents listed therein have all been considered and made of record.

RE: PREVIOUSLY FILED IDS'S

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner act on the IDS's filed November 18, 2003, May 7, 2004 and May 24, 2004 and return initialed copies of the Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B to confirm that the documents listed therein have all been considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,


Leonard Holtz
Reg. No. 22,974

Dated: July 27, 2004

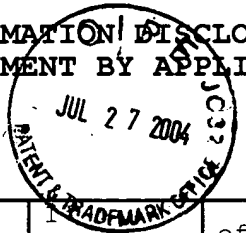
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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT 		Application Number	10/716,899
		Filing Date	November 18, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Kazuhisa KIMURA
		Group Art Unit	2853
		Examiner Name	MEIER, STEPHEN D.
Sheet 1	of 1	Attorney Docket Number	03685/LH

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Inits [*]	Cite No ¹	Document Number	Kind Code ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion
	A	6,550,890	B2	SAIJO	04-22-2003	
	B	5,231,424	A	KANEKO et al.	07-27-1993	
	C	4,380,770		MARUYAMA	04-19-1983	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam Inits [*]	Cite No ¹	Offc ³	Document Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion	T ⁶
	D	JP	62-101448	A	CANON INC	05-11-1987		x*
*English language Abstract only.								

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: July 27, 2004